Calamity for Who?: From Homeworld to Beach City, Etheria to Japan

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Relationships:	Julia "Jules" Argent/Carmen Sandiego, Lapis Lazuli/Peridot (Steven Universe), Himemiya Anthy & Lapis Lazuli (Steven Universe) & Peridot (Steven Universe) & Tenjou Utena, Himemiya Anthy/Tenjou Utena, White Diamond & Yellow Diamond (Steven Universe), Connie Maheswaran & Steven Universe, Entrapta & Perfuma (She-Ra), Lapis Lazuli & Peridot & Carmen Sandiego, Andy DeMayo & Steven Universe, Greg Universe & Steven Universe, Carmen Sandiego | Black Sheep & Shadowsan, Lars Barriga & Steven Universe, Lars Barriga & Off Colors, Nitori Shuuichi/Suehiro Anna, Sakurada Miwako & Hayasaka Yukari, Adora (She-Ra)/Carmen Sandiego | Black Sheep
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by lefemmerouge

Summary

As the Diamonds prepare their Gem forces on Homeworld for a full-scale invasion of a far-off planet, can those on Earth keep themselves together without a mishap and disagreements that pull them apart?

Notes

Originally, I put the English translations below Japanese text in this narrative to make it more authentic, but just say that people like Anna, Yukari, Yuki, Yuri (she/ they), Chi, Utena, Anthy, and a woman inside the Yuki No Geibā shop, are speaking Japanese. Remember that Apta refers to Entrapta and Fuma refers to Perfuma in this story. A joyfriend is what someone calls their non-binary partner instead of girlfriend or boyfriend. It's as simple as that.

Comments are welcome and appreciated.

Update #1 on 2/7/25: I changed this fic's rating from General Audiences to Teen and Up, which seemed more appropriate. The next day I divided it into chapters.

Update #2 on 2/9/25: This fic has been cross-posted on Squidge World. To read the original fic, prior to the revisions, you can do so on Wattpad.

See the end of the work for more notes

Chapter 1: The Great Diamond Armada, Fashion, Japan, Love, and Injury

The Nephrites, Jaspers, Peridots, Citrines, Carnelians, Amethysts, and other Gems stood in straight, neat rows. Each battalion was commanded by Rose Quartzes who had been un-bubbled from the Human Zoo. The Nephrites flew the Marquise Chippers, within the Pear Shimmer, also piloted by their likeness. The squadron of Destiny Destroyers was led by Emerald, the Trilliant Splitters by Hessonite, the Sun Incinerators by a crew of Agates, staffed by Carnelians and Amethysts. Admiral Jack, the mind-controlled version of a man formerly known as Samurai Jack, piloted his *Asscher Slasher*. He served as the supreme commander of the Great Diamond Armada (GDA). In the fleet's last engagement against the Horde, some ships and Gems had been lost. Now, the GDA was many times stronger, expanding its forces.

For this mission, the *Pear Shimmer* carried, apart from the starfighters, huge transport ships consisting of Diamond drills and Esperanzas, a bit like tanks. The Jaspers, Peridots, and Citrines, also on the ship, would be part of the ground assault force, assisted by Lapis Lazulis and Aquamarines.

Pink Pearl served as the ground commander, showing her loyalty to the cause of the Diamonds. When Yellow and White Diamond approached, the Gems remained at attention. Blue did not attend. She did not want any part in this scheme, faithful to Steven and the Gems on Earth, unlike Yellow and White, a decision these Diamonds accepted. White and Yellow saw her action as duplicitous. After all, Blue Pearl had drawn up the invasion and blockade plans of this new planet, but neither mentioned it to her directly, only thinking it privately.

Standing by White's side, Yellow examined assembled Gems. Everything seemed in order. She smiled in glee. White addressed those before her, dubbing them the Great Diamond Military (GDM), with the GDA as a subsidiary.

"I am White Diamond, matriarch of the Diamond Authority. I see eager Gems, in front of me, ready to defeat the enemy and *restore honor* to Gemkind. I am confident you will all fight the enemy with dignity. Make us proud! Fight for Homeworld! Remember those killed in the Battle of Horde Prime! Some of you will not return. Stand by your compatriots in this glorious fight and move forward to victory. We battle for the empire! *Long live* the Great Diamond Authority!"

The Gems cheered, caught up in the fervor, with the action by Steven and the Crystal Gems to challenge White, Blue, and Yellow four years ago had faded into the background. This was part of the reason an invasion of another planet would serve as a distraction, allowing the Diamonds to consolidate control. Aquamarines led the departing Gems into their respective ships, while the others got into their starfighters and spaceships.

Sometime later, Yellow Diamond blew the warp whistle, signifying that the Gems could leave Homeworld's orbit and warp to a planet called "Earth". They wouldn't be going to the one that Steven, Carmen Sandiego, Adora, and others lived on. Rather they would go an

Earth with a hyper-corporate society and an advanced civilization with space travel technology. For this reason, the White and Yellow saw it as a threat. The ships warped away, disappearing into space one by one. Snickering and grinning like a Cheshire cat, White stared up in delight. Everything was going according to plan. The Gems on Earth could do *nothing* about it!

Back on Earth, Julia sighed. Apart from Yuri coming to the museum with their girlfriend, Anna Suehiro, and enjoying the company of Carmen, her day had been dull. Some days she dreamed of burning the whole museum down, angry at what had become of her life, but then remembered the care that had gone into assembling all the artifacts and records. Locking up the museum, she walked out the front door, Carmen at her side, and looked glum.

"What's the matter, Jules?" she asked.

Jules sighed. "Oh, life. I like being a curator and all, but *the excitement* I once had is gone. Although Chase Devineaux was a jerk, I really enjoyed going to other places…I *miss* traveling the world."

Carmen realized that she had to pull her girlfriend out of a funk. That's what you do as a good partner, *right*? That's at least what she thought. "I can't solve *all* that…but maybe some people I know *might* make you feel better!"

Jules was intrigued. What kind of people was Carmen referring to. She had no idea. "Really? Where are they? In some far-off land like Cuba, the Mexican Islands, or Persia?" she asked inquisitively.

"No, right here in Japan," Carmen said, without pause. This disappointed Jules a bit.

She slumped, falling to the floor. "Oh, drat."

Carmen did not want to her girlfriend to be like this. *It wasn't right!* She tried to raise Jules' spirits.

"Don't fret! They are some of the nicest people I know. Now, hold on tight. We're gonna try and fly there. I hope this will work well with two people…"

This was something Jules did not expect. She went along with it, for now. She turned to Carmen, and said, "Carm, if you're *not comfortable* with it, I can call Mimi or Rin, who can drive us there."

Carmen shook her head. She wanted to do this for Jules, no matter what. "No…thanks," she said, quickly.

Jumping off the roof, she held Jules tightly in her arms. Due to the weight, the hang glider didn't have as much control as usual. She had installed little rocket jets on the side, making it fly at a hypersonic speed, making it uncontrollable. Before they took off in such a burst of energy, one person on the ground snapped a picture of the scene: Yukari "Caroline" Hayasaka. Since professional modeling in Tokyo had been her life's work for the last 13 years, Carmen's appearance interested her, as she thought Carmen might be a model like her.

She texted the photo to one of her younger friends in the industry, Anna Suehiro, only age 21, asking if she knew the woman. Her response made her heart skip a beat.

"Yes! That's the badass woman me and my joyfriend, Yuri, met at the V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives this afternoon. Her name is Carmen Sandiego and the person she's holding is the curator there named Julia Argent, I think. They are girlfriends *or something*, I dunno. Yuki might know more. I don't know any more than that, sorry."

Texting back, she thanked Anna and promised to meet her sometime for tea so they could catch up. She was once married to Hiroyuki Tokumori, the same age as her, 31. It didn't last long because her rebellious and independent free spirit couldn't mesh with his straight and narrow ideals. Since he had become a physician working at a hospital named after his family, he was Yuki's friends, although Caroline wasn't aware of it.

About to call Miwako, her bubbly pink-haired friend, now an established designer at *Happy Berry*, a brand still headed by her sister, Mikako, she saw Carmen and Jules spiraling out of control. They crashed into a building and began to fall. She gazed in utter shock. Rather than freezing in place, she ran toward the site.

Carmen and Jules had flown straight into the large skyscraper emblazoned with the logo of Sarashina Incorporated (SRI), the Soba restaurant chain run by the parents of Chizuru "Chi" Sarashina, another friend of Yuri. Quickly running through the streets of Tokyo, she tried to catch her breath after reaching the high-rise building.

She saw two women dragging an injured Carmen and Jules into an establishment named *Yuki No Geibā*.

Throwing open the door, she demanded they stop their "reckless action," threatening to call the police. "What the hell do you think you are doing? Those women were injured out there!"

One of the women inside shot back, "They are lesbians like us…so we're *helping* them. If you don't mind, we need to medically attend to our fallen comrades."

Caroline understood now. It made sense. "I get it…I had a designer friend *once*, who liked men and women. He's still in Paris with his friend, producing all sorts of fashionable clothing for companies there…"

When she said that, the woman inside the establishment was intrigued. She wanted to know more.

"Ooh! What's his name?" she asked.

Caroline answered matter-of-factly, "It's Jōji "George" Koizumi. His lady friend, who designs clothes with him, is Isabella Yamamoto, a transgender woman."

The woman shook her head. That name did not ring a bell for her. "I don't know him… although I know of *Miwako* of Happy Berry."

Caroline let out a yelp of excitement. She couldn't believe this. "Yeah, she's one of my oldest friends!"

The woman wanted to know why Caroline was here. She asked one further question. "Wow! What brings you down here…to the site of an injury?"

Caroline answered once again. She wanted to make herself clear. "I was hoping this lady in red, named Carmen Sandiego, *might* be a model. I'm a professional model and I like...her fashion sense."

Carmen lay unconscious on the floor, badly hurt. Although Jules also sustained extensive wounds, she had enough strength to pull a pen out of her pocket, and clicked it.

It flew and landed on the ground, upright, standing on its point. While she wasn't a member of A.C.M.E. anymore, the pen served as a keepsake and a last-ditch emergency help line.

A hologram of The Chief projected across the room, surprising everyone. Surveying the scene, she could see an unconscious Carmen and a weakened Julia, who mouthed the words "hospital. We need to go to the hospital…hurt badly…please help." Nodding, she spoke to everyone in the bar, who knew they would all *have to* speak English to this holographic figure.

"I'm not sure who you all are, but I thank you for aiding her in this time of need. *Don't worry* about expenses. She is being taken to Tokumori Hospital, as is Carmen," the Chief stated plainly.

Yukari answered on behalf of the women in the bar, even she didn't have the total right to do so.

"Ma'am, these women are strangers to us, but we'd like to stay with them as they go the hospital, if that's possible."

The Chief accepted this. "Very well, that goes for all of you…and you Miss…"

She introduced herself to this holographic figure. "Yukari Hayasaka, ma'am. I'm a professional model here in Tokyo."

The Chief smiled. She was glad to see such people around Carmen. "Thank you, Ms. Hayasaka and everyone here. We appreciate your efforts."

The pen fell to the ground as the message ceased. The fellow bar goers were angry at The Chief, feeling she was patronizing them. The loud clacking of high heels made everyone, especially the bar goers, tense up. A 35-year-old woman, Yuki, stepped out of the shadows and walked into the room. They wore professional business attire and a lime green tie. Yuki angrily shouted at the patrons for their disrespect.

"How can you say that about her? She just wanted to help us. She was *genuinely concerned* about the women in this establishment. We should remain positive, open-minded, and accept anyone helping one of our fallen comrades."

One of the women sighed. She couldn't believe she had to explain this.

"Yuki, I understand your position, but we *can't afford* a police raid here. She's clearly a cop or some form of one...I don't trust a woman who comes out of a fountain pen!"

Yuki rolled her eyes. She made one final statement.

"Fine. I'll agree to take both outside, to await vehicles to Tokumori Hospital. Please help me move them from the floor to the sidewalk."

Grumbling, the bar's patrons helped carry Carmen and Julia outside. Caroline also lent a hand since she still wanted to ask Carmen, a mysterious woman for her, if she was a model. If she wasn't, perhaps she could encourage her to join the modeling business. The more friends she had in this tough industry the better.

The vans arrived on Dōseiai Street. Chi, otherwise known as Chizuru Sarashina, watched the scene on the street below from her fourth-floor office in the SRI skyscraper. Although only 22 years old, one year older than Yuri, she served as a middle manager in the company. Shaking her head, she groused about the damage to the window caused by Carmen and Julia smashing into it, accidentally.

Moving her hands wildly, her long hair blowing in the wind as air entered cracks in the windowpane, she shouted. "Tsk, tsk, tsk. *Those meddlesome kids.* Don't they know responsibility! No one can afford to be carefree these days. The only thing that moves you forward is hard work and dedication…we can't all be *gallivanting* around! Those troublemakers should be dealt with using the full force of the law. There's *no place* for games on these streets."

This sentiment stood in stark contrast to her personality eight years before in junior high school. Back then, she acted often outrageously, impulsively, and unconventionally. Through this change, Momoko, often called Momo, a childhood friend, had stayed by her side, *defending* her from anyone deemed to be "bullying" her, whether true or false. The only aspect of herself that had remained, apart from her long hair, was her stylish clothes.

Chapter 2: Hospitalization in Japan, Female Friends, Danger, and Injury

Chapter Summary

Carmen and Julia find themselves in a hospital. Both are injured beyond belief, with Peri and Lapis coming to visit them, with Lapis wondering why Carmen was doing something so dangerous. Many people come to visit her and she talks with Player about what happened.

Chapter Notes

I decided to break this apart into chapters before I post it on Squidge World.

Carmen and Julia arrived at Tokumori Hospital. They had been lucky. A fall of 50 to 60 feet would prove fatal *to most*. After hitting the glass both slid down the side of the building to the ground. They moved at such a fast speed it caused bruising, leading to a concussion for Carmen, since she took the brunt of the impact onto the pavement, with Jules left dazed, but weak.

Awaking, almost like she had a bad dream, a hand of the patient in the bed next to her, Jules, grasped her hand lovingly. Unfortunately, this *didn't* ease her pain.

Peri and Lapis entered the room with a smile, sitting down next to her bed, putting red roses in a vase on a nearby table. Peri cried. It seemed like the only logical response to seeing Carmen in casts and all sorts of IVs flowing into her body to keep her stabilized. On the other hand, Lapis expressed hope that Carmen would get better. "Carmen, are you ok? We came as fast as we could after hearing what happened."

Carmen looked at her, opening one eye weakly, then the other. She answered slowly. "I feel like there are thousands of little needles sticking into my body and I feel unable to do anything. Who said I was here?"

Lapis realized she had to explain this. It might be a little embarrassing for Carmen, but she wanted to be honest.

"Oh, from the physician. Julia told the woman we were good friends of yours who could comfort you in this time of need. She seemed excited to see you here."

Brushing that aside for the moment, she wanted to know about her girlfriend. That's what mattered to her. "Is Jules ok?"

While Peri would have said something, she remained crying in the corner, too sad to say anything to Carmen. So, Lapis did the talking instead.

"I think so. She sustained a lot less injury than you did. What were you doing flying through Tokyo on the hang glider anyway? Isn't it meant for *one person*?"

Carmen shook her head. She knew that this would have to come out somehow, but she wanted it to be in a more dignified way. "Yes, it is. After Jules confided to me that she lacked excitement in her life, I thought bringing her to visit you both would raise her spirits. This *isn't* the way I wanted you to meet my girlfriend, in a hospital, but we've been dating for *almost two weeks now*."

Lapis had a big smile on her face. She couldn't be prouder. She had a sense that Carmen and Jules had a thing for each other, and the fact they were together just confirmed it.

"Congrats! Best of luck to you. If you need anything, please contact me or Peri. We're here for you, *down the road*, as to speak, from Tokyo."

Carmen grinned back. She remarked, "Thanks, Lapis."

Lapis hugged Carmen and kissed her on the forehead, showing she cared about her as a friend. Peri embraced her as well.

Carmen was glad she had such caring friends. Both left the room and promising to return for future visits to check up on her. The physician, serving as a nurse today, entered.

Carmen's face had an expression of shock. She *hadn't* expected to see Yuri ever again. Her cheeks turned as red as raspberries in embarrassment.

"I…didn't think I'd see you again, Yuri, and so soon after our first meeting. *I'm too tired* to speak in Japanese right now. If we could speak in English, that would be best."

Yuri snickered. She couldn't believe she was this close to Carmen. "Of course. Ms. Sandiego, it is a pleasure to help you. *How are you feeling*?"

Carmen knew she had to be honest with Yuri, at least this once. What did she had to lose? "I am...better than before. I banged my head badly and it's throbbing. Every part of my body feels like its sore. The pain is everywhere."

Yuri nodded her head. This made sense to her. Injuries like these were not uncommon. "That's to be expected after your accident. You are lucky it wasn't more than four stories."

When Carmen asked about Jules, they said in serious manner, "Ms. Argent is fine. She didn't get hurt as badly as you did. She's resting now, *apparently in a coma* from what we can tell."

Carmen got it. She wanted them to be friends. "I'll have to repay you for this someday...maybe me and Jules can go on a *double date* with you and your partner."

Yuri smiled. Nothing could have made them happier. "I'd like that very much! I really want to become friends with you. I love your fashion sense. I'll be back later to check on you."

Utena and Anthy came in, solemnly, Anthy praying for good fortune. Utena proceeded to put sunflowers into the nearby vase and walked toward Carmen. She clasped her hand tight and bowed, gazing directly into her gray-blue eyes, beginning to cry. "After what Lapis and Peri told us…*we had to* see you. I know we haven't met, but I am Ms. Tenjou and this is my partner, for 22 years, Ms. Himemiya."

Carmen looked at them with interest. She tried to be as friendly as she could. "It's a delight to meet you both. If we could speak in English, Ms. Tenjou, that would be *preferred*. I'm not up to speaking Japanese right now and my language skills are still a bit rusty."

Utena apologized. She wanted to be as nice to Carmen, especially in these circumstances. "*Sorry!* I should have asked sooner. I hope you get well soon. Me and Anthy will be praying for you, praying to Ebisu, a god of fortune, and Kotoamatsukami, the primary kami trinity."

Carmen didn't know exactly what Utena was talking about. However, she knew that Utena and Anthy meant well. "While I'm not religious myself, I appreciate your gesture. Thank you, Ms. Tenjou and Ms. Himemiya. I'm glad you came."

Utena said one more thing. "Ms. Sandiego, we wish you *good fortune* in the days to come."

After saying this, Anthy cried, Utena comforting her, both leaving the room in tears. Sitting in the hospital bed, Carmen began contemplating everything, her life, her relationship with Jules, and all that revolved around it. She tried to grab her phone, but her arms were in casts, as were her legs.

She shouted out the name "Yuri!" No one came.

She pressed the "Assistance" button on her bed, in hopes that would work instead.

Running in, they apologized for not coming sooner, having to catch their breath. "Ms. Sandiego, is there anything you'd like help with?"

Carmen made clear what she'd like "Yes! I'm in these casts so I can't reach my phone. I wanted to call my friend and tell him I am OK, so he doesn't get worried."

Yuri understood what she meant. She would do what she needed to help her patients. "I can do that. Who would you like me to call?"

She shook her head. She knew this would be weird, but she had to do it. She couldn't leave him hanging. "It's under the name "Player." Click the button for "video call" and it will auto-dial the number."

The phone began ringing. Carmen hoped he would pick up. Fortunately, he did, stunned to see her in casts and in a hospital. He let out a gasp. "Red! What…happened to you?"

She wanted to explain the whole story, but she decided to shorten it. It would save her some time. "I crashed into a building in my hang glider. The weight of Jules caused it to go out of

control. After sliding down the side of the building and onto the hard concrete below, the next thing I remember was waking up in this hospital bed. Peri, Lapis, Utena, and Anthy have already come to see me. I'm *so grateful* for that."

Red was concerned about her. "Is everything OK?" he asked. She tried to make clear that she didn't need his help. She was fine on her own.

"I mean, I'm conscious. I suffered a concussion and my head hurts a bit. I have casts covering all parts of my body, while my legs and arms are elevated."

This made Red a bit concerned. How was she talking to him right now? "So…who is holding the phone, then?"

Carmen realized she had to explain this too. "Oh, it's the physician here, Yuri. She…they… has been so kind to me. I'm surprised you weren't aware of my injury sooner. Aren't you and Peri friends *or something?*"

Player realized that Carmen had a point. Why hadn't Peri let him know? "We are…but she hasn't contacted me *in a while*. I'm not sure what happened."

Carmen guessed there was a simple reason for this. "She probably has a lot going on. She moved in with Utena and Anthy's country house south of Yokohama, so she's living in Japan now."

This made sense even to Player, who had a very analytical mind, but was not the best with social skills. "I bet that's the reason she *hasn't* talked to me for some time."

Carmen told him that she'd keep him informed. "Yup. I'll keep you posted on my recovery."

Player waved bye and said a few words before he left. "Feel better soon, Red!"

The video chat ended. Yuri put the phone on the bedside table. Approaching Carmen, they asked if they could do anything else.

Nodding her head side-to-side, they took the hint and departed. Laying in the bed, she dozed off, happy that Lapis, Peri, Utena, and Anthy had come to visit her. Caroline *continued* to sit in the waiting room and asked Yuri if she could visit Ms. Sandiego, to which she nodded a no, telling her the patient had gone to sleep. Annoyed, she relaxed in the waiting room, texting Miwako, *asking her* to come to the hospital.

Chapter 3: Adora's worry, Uncle Andy's biplane, and the journey to Japan

Chapter Summary

Pearl finds out from Peri that Carmen is in the hospital. While Adora says Lapis can fly them there, Pearl says she doesn't want to inconvenience them and Steven takes notice, thinking it is weird because they can easily travel to Japan if they want. They decide to travel with Uncle Andy there, rather than using another method, and they eventually arrive, with Carmen glad that Adora and others have come to visit her in the hospital.

Chapter Notes

Like the last chapter, I broke off this chapter from chapters 1-2 before I post it on Squidge World. In the process, I made revisions from the original text.

Meanwhile, Steven, Connie, Bismuth, Garnet, Pearl, Adora, and Amethyst were relaxing in the Beach House, hoping that tomorrow's meeting would be productive. Steven, Connie, Bismuth, and Garnet were playing a game together, Cartel, with each player acquiring new properties on which they could charge rent, increasing if they had "houses" or "hotels." One person served as the "banker."

All the players chose from the stack of cards organized into the "Communal Chest" and "Wild Cards," rolling two dice every turn to go a certain number of spaces on the board. Pearl received *a call* from someone unexpected (Peri) and began crying, dashing out of the room, Adora running after her.

"Pearl, is something wrong?" Pearl came close to her and explained why she was so upset. "Yes! Carmen’s in a Japanese hospital."

Adora was shocked. She never expected something like that would happen to Carmen, *of all people*. "That’s awful! How are we gonna visit her?" Pearl realized that Adora had a point. That hadn't crossed her mind. "Well…I didn’t think about that!" To Adora, it wouldn't be that hard to get there. After all, couldn't the Gems fly or something? "You could call Lapis and tell her to fly us there."

Pearl shook her head. She *didn't want* to burden any of the Gems with her personal problems. "No, no, no. I don't want to *inconvenience her* like that."

Hopelessly sighing, Pearl walked into the Beach House, *dejected*. Adora held her hand, doing her best to comfort her partner. Letting out a loud groan, she fell to the floor and shouted "WHYYYYY!" while sobbing.

Steven took notice. He knew Pearl could have low self-esteem at times. He came down to her level and tried to get her out of her funk. "Pearl, what's wrong? Why are you so sad?"

Pearl continued to cry. She looked at Steven, sadly, remarking, "Carmen is in the hospital in Tokyo…and I *can't* visit her…it's not right!" This didn't make sense to Steven. Couldn't they get there easily? I mean they were Gems after all! "What do you mean you can't?...Lapis could easily get you there…she *has water wings*."

Pearl restated her strange concern for the well-being of Lapis. It was strange because Lapis would have been *more than happy* to fly them to Tokyo. "I'm aware of that…but I don't want to disturb her…"

Steven accepted this, even though it seemed a bit strange to him. "Remember Uncle Andy?...my cousin who came to the barn and went to Garnet's wedding…he still has a biplane...he could fly all three of us to Japan."

Pearl was glad to hear this. She felt validated by him and it felt good. "Great! I *forgot* about him."

Steven let her know there was one catch to this plan. He needed permission first. "I just have to talk to my dad first…"

Steven promised to return soon, giving Amethyst permission to play his turn. Beaming, she told him she'd do anything for "Steve-O," giving him a high-five.

Pearl and Adora waved goodbye to everyone, following Steven over to Greg's car wash. They found Greg sleeping in a beach chair.

Steven softly spoke, announcing himself. "Dad, it's me."

Greg was happy to see him. Being around his son always made him happy. "Hey…Schtu-ball!...Pearl…and…"

Adora grumbled. She couldn't believe that he *didn't* remember her! "Adora. I'm Pearl's partner…" she told him.

Now he was starting to remember. It took him sometime for name recognition and especially more with someone he *hadn't* seen that often. "Thanks for reminding me…I haven't seen you that many times, but your name rings a bell. So, Steven, why'd you and your friends stop by here today?"

Steven made it himself clear. They didn't have to come there, but they do so anyway. "We were hoping you'd be able to help us get to…Japan."

Greg was confused. How could he ever help them with that. "But…I don't have *any* form of transportation other than my van…" he lamented.

Steven made clear what they wanted. "No, not with your van but with *Uncle Andy's biplane*."

Greg understood why they had come there. He reassured his son, Adora, and Pearl, that it would all be ok.

"Right! I'll call him up. He's in Miami *on vacation* at some of their beautiful beaches."

Andy answered almost immediately. Steven, Pearl, and Adora could only hear Greg's words during the short conversation. Getting off the phone, Greg put up his fists and yelled "YES! HE AGREED TO IT!"

Steven embraced him and whispered "Thanks, Dad!" In Miami, sitting on Florida Island, in the Floridan Archipelago, Andy stepped into his biplane and gestured toward the fellow beach combers.

With a maximum speed of 200 mph at 5,500 feet, a usual range of 400 miles, and able to climb 900 feet a minute, his plane differed from typical biplanes. Even so, some could doubt that he would be able to travel all the way to Beach City. However, he had flown from Beach City to southern Korea in the past, a 6,922-mile distance (11,480 KM), so he could easily make this 979-mile trip (about 1,575.5 KM), especially with extra fuel tanks.

It would take him about four hours and 45 minutes, at minimum, to get to Beach City. Due to the range of his plane, he had to refuel in Jacksonville, on Jacksonville Island, also in the Archipelago, then to Wilmington, in Mipsia, and finally to Beach City, a total of 979 miles. Since the biplane served as his normal form of transportation, he had friends across the worldwide biplane community who helped him out when he made long trips.

After being informed it would take Andy a while to arrive in Beach City, Pearl grimaced. Adora soothed her so much that she drifted off to "sleep" in her arms, something Steven described as "cute." The day wore on, everyone tired from the summer sun. Suddenly, the sound of the biplane's motor could be heard nearby. Steven hollered. "Uncle Andy!"

The plane touched down on a nearby grassy field, the former site of the barn where Lapis and Peri had lived. Steven and Greg ran, with Adora following behind, holding Pearl in her arms, as light as ever. They soon reached the plane, its motor humming. Unlike most biplanes, there were three seats, one for the pilot and two for passengers, the last seat added while Steven and the Gems were in Etheria. Stepping out of his plane,

Andy welcomed everyone. Although he warned them that his plane could only handle three people, Adora refused to let Pearl go. He agreed to let Pearl come along *on the condition* she hold onto her tightly during their flight to Japan, passing through many different sovereign states, republics, and whatnot.

After two hours and 20 minutes, a 440 mile-distance, straining the engine, they arrived in Columbus, one of the biggest cities in the Virginia-Ohio Confederation, using their battery-powered lights to see through the dark. Andy refueled the biplane, helped by Steven, while Adora and Pearl slept. About two hours and 396 miles later, arriving at St. Louis, one of the big hubs in the Midwestern Republic, 396 miles, during the late night.

Steven again aided in fueling the plane. As the night wore on, the biplane arrived at Wichita, Kansas; Colorado Springs in the Kingdom of Utco; Salt Lake City in the same Kingdom; and Boise in the Republic of Midacat. Next up on their northward trajectory was Seattle, in the state of Tagonishi.

Andy decided to stop in Seattle, having traveled for eleven hours and 30 minutes, a total of 2,448 miles from Beach City! Leaving Beach City at 8:00 PM, 23 minutes before sunset, beginning in the Delmarva Standard Time (DST) zone, they had passed through six time zones since each State had their own time zone: Virginia-Ohio Standard Time (VOST), Midwestern Standard Time (MST), Kansas Standard Time (KST), Utco Standard Time (UST), Midadat Standard Time (MIST), and Tagonishi Standard Time (TST). This meant that while it would have been 7:30 A.M. in the morning, since their biplane had passed through that many time zones, it was actually 1:30 PM *the next day*!

The plane landed near the Super Sparkling Plant, a diner like those created many years ago, from a long-forgotten traditionalist time. Sitting in a booth, a waitress asked Adora, Pearl, Andy, and Steven what each would like to order. Pearl passed on any food, only wanting a glass of water, while Andy ordered a cheeseburger and fries, Steven a personal pizza, and Adora a sprout burger, wanting to be "experimental."

Chowing through their food, Andy asked how everyone was doing. He was *trying* to be more caring. "So, how's everyone feeling?"

Steven said something first. "Tired from the trip so far, Uncle Andy, but it will be *worth it* when we get to Japan!"

Andy wanted to know more. What had happened in Japan? "Greg told me about your friend in Japan. What *happened* to her?"

Steven chuckled. It was a bit embarrassing to admit. "Oh, she slammed into a skyscraper while riding a hang glider with her girlfriend."

That was one strange story. Andy hadn't heard anything like that before. He had come around to accepting two women together like that. In the past, he hadn't really accepted it.

"Ok, then. You are all weird, but I like it…at least more than I used to. What's the story about you, *blonde-haired lady*?"

Adora explained a little about herself. She didn't see any harm in talking about it. "My name is Adora. I'm from another planet, light-years away. I came to Earth because of Pearl. I wanted to start a new life here, have new memories and new friends. The place I lived before had become *toxic.* The person I trusted wanted to destroy all the planets in the known universe, making them a genocidal monster. I wanted to be free from that and the responsibility to 'save' everyone from some sort of 'evil.'"

Andy could, in a way, relate to this. It seemed strange, but he could, somehow. "I get that. I've never traveled off this planet, but I've seen families fall from nastiness and distrust time and time again, whether directly drawn into the fray or from afar. In that way, I can recognize what you are going through. I know it's not much consolation…"

This was fine with Adora. She told him, "It's okay. I love Pearl now and she's *glad* to have me. Right, P?"

Looking at her girlfriend, Pearl responded, saying "Yes, sweetie…and I'm just peachy."

Adora laughed so hard that water almost came out her nose. Finishing their food, Andy paid with his Biplane Credit Card (BCC), valid across the world, for a total cost of forty Tagonishi Dollars. Knowing there wasn't a fueling station nearby, he put the extra fuel he had stored into the tank, while everyone else got in, feeling jazzed up for the rest of the day. The biplane took off, prepared for their next destination, traveling through the great Republic of Alaxsxax, going into another time zone, Alaxsxax Standard Time (AST). The biplane stopped in the city of Courtenay on Vancouver Island, then Gilford Island, Denny Island, Prince Rupert Island, and Ketchikan Island, a trip of 667 miles.

This took three hours and thirty minutes. The journey continued north, through Catherine Island, Kanataak Island, Boswell Bay, and Anchorage, having traveled for another four hours, a total of 393 miles. They had a pit-stop in Anchorage, the capital of the Republic of Alaxsxax, at 10 P.M. AST, having a quick (and late) dinner and buying some fur-lined coats, hats, and gloves, before refueling, traveling in a northernly direction. From airport to airport, adding more fuel as needed, for the next 3 hours, the biplane went closer to the polar ice cap of Earth, across the vast land of Alaxsxax, before going westward, for 622 miles. Andy prepared to cross the Bering Strait into the Republic of Eastern Russia. While traversing the strait was easy, getting to Tokyo would take some work.

The biplane sped along, Andy at the helm and Steven as navigator, Pearl and Adora often sleeping, missing many of the beautiful sights. In Eastern Russia, their route was a southernly one, with longer periods between stops than before. After flying over Eastern Russia for 1,906 miles, a total of nine hours and thirty minutes, they finally reached the upper islands of the State of Japan, stocking up with lots of fuel at Okhotsk, as the islands were mostly uninhabited by humans. The plane stopped at occasional islands to add extra fuel into the fuel tank, allowing them to continue flying.

Three hours and forty minutes later, journeying 760 miles, everyone cheered when landing in Hokkaido, the northern island of Japan, at 2:10 JST (Japan Standard Time). Despite such excitement, there were clearly many miles left to go. Another 667 miles, and three hours and thirty minutes later, passing through cities like Aomori and Sendai, the plane finally landed outside Tokyo.

Andy reminded Steven that if any of them needed a ride somewhere, he would be *happy* to assist. As Steven, Pearl, and Adora left, he rested a bit after all the flying, sleeping in the cockpit. At 5:50 JST, on June 11, Steven, Pearl, and Adora entered Tokumori Hospital, having trekked (through the air) for 7,463 miles, taking thirty-seven and half hours. Rushing into the Carmen's hospital room, they all embraced her, with Julia *still* in a coma.

She appreciated their love, although annoyed at their "late" arrival to the hospital. "I've been in the hospital for over two and a half days now…where have you been?" she asked.

Steven explained it all to her. He wanted to make clear that they all cared about her. "Sorry we couldn't be here sooner but…we rode in a biplane the whole way…a wild adventure with

my Uncle Andy…" Adora almost slumped over a little. She told Carmen that it was "A sleepless flight of over 37 hours if you ask me."

Carmen was impressed. They did all this...*for her*? She couldn't believe it. "Wow…what dedication! Thanks so much for coming! I *apologize* for being snappy before. Why didn't any of you tell me?"

Pearl admitted why they hadn't told her they were coming. "We wanted it to be *a surprise*…"

Adora added onto this. "Our phones didn't get much service…I tried to text you, but it never went through."

Carmen felt a little more invigorated than she had before. She happily declared, "I appreciate that, Adora…you are my *dearest friend*. Speaking of friends, I'd like you to meet Ms. Hayasaka, who calls herself 'Caroline.' She helped me and Jules after the accident."

Introducing herself to them all, Caroline bowed. She then began speaking. "Glad to meet you all. I saw Carmen flying through the sky, then witnessed her crash into that building. I felt I had to do something…"

Adora was intrigued. She began asking questions of this beautiful woman. "So, Caroline, what do you do in Tokyo?"

Caroline always liked talking about herself, so she was more than happy to oblige. She hoped to make some new friends out of this. "I'm a professional model. I have been for 13 years now."

Adora was impressed. While she would have promoted herself, she decided to ask about her friend instead. It only seemed right to her. "Amazing. Do you think Carmen *has any potential*?"

Pearl tried to tell Adora to cut it out. She didn't want her girlfriend to embarrass herself. "Adora…don't ask that!" she whispered.

Adora turned to her, clearly annoyed, and whispered back, "Pearl…shhh!"

Caroline ignored the whispering. She instead directed her attention to Adora's question. She wanted to answer her honestly. "*She does*. I already signed her up for some gigs here in Tokyo later this year."

Adora was overjoyed. Shouting as loud as she could, she exclaimed "Carmen, congrats!"

While Carmen wasn't sure she could take such loud noises right now, she was ok hearing them from Adora. While she still felt bad about what happened during their failed date in the Floridian Archipelago, *she couldn't* let that stop her. She had to keep moving forward. "It's the least I can do since *I'm retired* from thieving," she told Adora.

Annoyed by this conversation, Pearl spotted a white envelope in the nearby flower vase. It had the name "Carmen" on the front. Kneeling to her bedside, Pearl asked Carmen if she'd like it opened. She consented. Pearl read it aloud:

"Dear Carmen,

Get well soon! Best wishes for you and Jules.

Love and Kisses,

Lapis, Utena, Peri, and Anthy (LUPA)

P.S. We need workers to help grow hemp plants at Utena & Anthy's farm. Could we use the V.I.L.E. members in that Siberian base? Your help would be appreciated. – L + P

P.P.S. Chu-Chu and Pumpkin also send their love!"

The letter touched Carmen deeply. Lapis and Peri's comment puzzled her a bit. She thought it would be worth a gander because of her continued access to the Siberian base.

Unable to reach the phone, she requested Pearl contact Lapis and Peri, telling them that "she'll do what she can." Steven nor Adora heard her since both had stepped out, needing a breath of fresh air.

Pearl left, meeting up with Steven and Adora, who were walking out of the hospital, feeling great about themselves. Shadowsan walked into Carmen's hospital room, and came to her side.

She whispered in his ear, entreating one favor from him: get the former V.I.L.E. members out of Siberia by "any means necessary."

Astonished by this, he demanded to know *why* she would want such a thing, considering the evil V.I.L.E. was capable of. She responded that it would be her "gift" to her friends Lapis and Peri.

She suggested he steal the hypnosis gun from the V.I.L.E. Museum and Archives, allowing him to control the former V.I.L.E. members. Despite his reservations, *he agreed* to undertake her mission and dashed into the night.

Ready to leave Japan, Steven began punching in Andy's phone number. A portal opened in front of them, with Connie riding atop Lion. She ushered everyone to come back with her, scolding them on missing the meeting where the Gems, Adora, Steven, and Connie would plan on *how to help the world*. All three had completely forgotten about it.

Steven called Andy before leaving, thanking him for flying them there but explained he had another "ride" back to Beach City. Andy called him a "good kid" and promised to see him on the "flip side."

Breathing a sigh of relief, and not wanting the same long trip back to Beach City, he decided to stop in Busan, in the United Republic of Korea (UKR), to meet some old flying buddies,

about a 600 mile journey, stopping in Shimane, Tottori, or Mikata, to refuel. From there, he might go through the Social State of China, the Afghani-Pakistani Soviet, and end up in the Revolutionary State of Persia. He wanted to explore the world and enjoy all it had to offer.

Chapter 4: Return to Beach City, Uniting the World, Trouble on Etheria, ACME, and Captain Lars' New Mission

Chapter Summary

Steven, Pearl, and Adora return to Beach City and are met with annoyance from Connie and other Crystal Gems after missing an important meeting about how to unite the world. They decide to finish their discussion and create a "World Parliamentary Assembly" to unite everyone across the planet. Later on, Steven asks Captain Lars to begin a new mission across the universe, trouble begins brewing on Etheria as the Compact begins falling apart, and ACME's true nature is revealed.

Chapter Notes

I decided to, before posting this on Squidge World, divide it into four chapters. This is the final one of the four chapters. The text has been updated and improved, overwriting the previously flawed text.

Back in Beach City, Amethyst, Garnet, Connie, and Bismuth glared at Steven, Pearl, and Adora, annoyed at their absence from the planned meeting on June 10. Steven apologized on their behalf. He inquired about what all four had discussed a few days prior.

Connie admitted that nothing had been decided, especially since none of them were good at organization, missing Adora and Pearl as possible facilitators. However, she noted that the idea of a worldwide organization had been floated.

Steven blurted out "like a legislature?" Connie bobbed her head "yes."

Pearl added, "there are these human legislative bodies…called parliaments…they *seem effective* from what I've read in Human Issues magazine!"

Everyone continued squabbling. Adora bellowed at the top of her lungs the word "STOP!"

"If we keep arguing among ourselves, *what chance* do we have to unite this whole planet together? Everyone needs to be on the same page. I say we push for a world government, a world legislature of some type," Adora declared.

Pearl followed her words, adding "A World Parliamentary Assembly! We can call it WPA, which will unite all the countries of the world *together* to face any external threat. Every

country gets one vote in order to create an equal playing field. That's at least something to start with."

Steven nodded. These ideas sounded like a good idea. "Great ideas Adora and Pearl! Let's *write them down*…"

June 12, 2019, due to the fact Lion had warped them through various time zones, would come to be known as WPA Creation Day. It would be celebrated as the day that this concept, which would bring together the world, came into existence. This meeting wasn't the only thing that happened that day. On his own authority, and *without* asking any of the Crystal Gems, Steven requested a favor of his friend Lars Barriga, captain of the Off Colors (O.C.): go to Homeworld and *investigate* the voracity of the message he had received from the Diamonds.

Fluorite, slowly talking, thanked Steven for the mission. Rhodonite's paranoid mindset went into overdrive, thinking the Diamonds *had created a trap* for them, the Rutile Twins able to calm her down. As the door of the improved Sun Incinerator, a ship their group had dubbed the *O.C. Star Strider*, closed, Padparadscha joyfully cried out "I predict Steven will give us the order to fly to Homeworld. What a wonder!"

Lars, knowing her from their years together, tussled her hair and slyly told her "Thanks, Pappy," but in a sweet way. Although she felt embarrassed, she hugged him, glad he appreciated her, unlike the rest of them.

Light years away, Apta and Fuma had struggles of their own on Etheria. The other signatories to the Compact had felt compelled to accept the document created by Ms. Ehre. In response for her "treachery," Frosta, Glimmer, Mermista, Netossa, and Spinnerella disowned Fuma, not seeing her as a "real princess," only one on paper.

As a result, she dissolved her ties to the Royal Realm of Plumeria, transferring her signatory authority over to her brother, Kelley, choosing him as her successor. He would hold power until a new leader could be elected by a democratic vote, which further offended the princesses. Bow moved to Mystacor to help Apta. The Archives of Etheria had been moved to Mystacor, from its previous location, thanks to the magic of Castaspella and the sorcerers. George and Lance thanked them, Apta, and Bow, for helping to maintain all their records.

Apta had moved her facilities from Dryl to Mystacor, *destroying* her previous castle there. This had all happened within *one week*. The Compact of Etheria only had paper authority now. Even so, *no one* wanted to release the former Horde members charged by the Etherian courts.

The Royal Realms of Bright Moon, Salineas, and Snows had allied together into the Alliance of Royal Restoration (A.R.R.). The Royal Realms of Mystacor and Plumeria, the City-State of Elberon, Republic of Thaymor, and the Commune of Alwyn had formed an opposing force, called the Coalition of Organizational Dignity on Etheria (C.O.D.E.). Mayor Abbelina of Elberon, Governor Pax of Thaymor, and Chief Executive Granjero of Alwyn had joined C.O.D.E., giving them more popular support than A.R.R. Swift Wind, *not knowing* what side to choose, left the planet altogether, searching for "greener pastures."

Unlike Frosta, Mermista, Netossa, and Spinnerella, this division had emotionally destroyed Glimmer. Bow joining C.O.D.E. hurt her badly, but even worse was her mother, Angella, defecting to the other side. It drove her so irate that she wanted to conduct a massive attack on Mystacor with all their powers. Despite disowning Fuma, the other princesses refused to do this, feeling issues with C.O.D.E. could be resolved diplomatically.

Glimmer refused to follow their advice and started constructing a rocket, allowing her to ask other planets for help, which would leave A.R.R. *leaderless and disoriented*. She didn't care about that, grumbling that "no one" sought to do the "right thing": mass annihilation of the other side.

Tired from non-stop work, Apta slumped in her chair. Fuma came into the room, similarly exhausted. Both wanted the scuffle between the princesses and their force, C.O.D.E., to end, feeling a civil war would be unavoidable, endeavoring to ensure Adora wouldn't be wrapped up in it. Sighing, Apta spoke matter-of-factly to Fuma. "I never wanted the planet to divide… it's even worse than when the Horde was the enemy…*why* can't we all just get along?"

Fuma knew that Apta wouldn't completely understand. So she tried to make it clearer. "The other princesses think their power is being *infringed* upon and are afraid of the bureaucrats. Sadly, none can be reasoned with, at least not now…"

Apta began to snicker. She knew what she had to do. It seemed extreme. But, it *had to be done*. "Perhaps we need to make them listen. I hacked the Black Garnet runestone before…I could hack all the runestones from one single one…or use the Sword of Protection. The princesses could have their powers drained and order could be restored."

Fuma was concerned. Was Apta *going too far*? She didn't know. "Is it worth the risk?"

Apta nodded her head. She was used to risk in science. For her, science was *all about risk*. "I believe it's our only option. *Are you ok* with your powers being sapped away…too?"

Surprisingly, Fuma was ok with this. She didn't mind it one bit. "I am. The challenges of this world have readied me *for anything*. Losing my powers will not make me any less of a person…I'll still like you, as a friend, and I feel a connection to all living things, especially plants, in a deep way, even if I can't control them."

Apta turned to her. She made one last declaration: "Then, its settled. We start on the Runestone Draining Project (RDP) today…someday those princesses *will learn* what it's like to have no power!"

Apta cackled as lightning struck behind her, almost like the elements were gathering around her in some form. If those from C.O.D.E. or A.R.R. had contacted Adora, she *probably* would have tried to resolve their dispute. Those on both sides wanted to respect her wishes, believing that she, and the others on Earth, had their own issues to deal with. That was a correct assumption.

Stepping into the main hall, Apta flipped a switch and lights illuminated the hundreds of flickering computer screens. *The same system* she had used to ensure the correct categorization and organization of the records of the Archives of Etheria, had been used to

streamline the bureaucratic process. It was the lifeblood of C.O.D.E., with bureaucrats working to develop new rules and regulations to serve everyone.

Instead of a mess of papers and files like before, as much as possible had been digitized, with more to come on the way. Unlike archival records, where some documents or records would never enter the digital realm, the fact that the bureaucracy had only existed for a short time made it easier to move toward an all-digital recordkeeping system.

Apta oversaw the writing of new rules and regulations, dubbing herself the "Chief Bureaucrat," a position she created. If Hermes Conrad, light-years away, had seen her progress, *he would have been pleased*, as she planned to surpass the efforts of the Central Bureaucracy. Although she tried to make the system not confusing and convoluted, although the latter might be inevitable.

Back on Earth, the next day, June 13, an explosion rocked the secret A.C.M.E. base in Siberia, specifically in the Union of Western Russia. Shadowsan spirited away the V.I.L.E. members held there, commandeering a helicopter using the hypnosis gun, en route to Miura. Watching the chaos unfold from the A.C.M.E. headquarters in Lyons, a city in the Grand French Republic, The Chief shook her head.

She addressed the assembled A.C.M.E. agents. "This is a dark day…*our efforts* to make the world safer have been foiled…by dangerous elements within our society…they must be suppressed…or else…"

Suddenly, the building's structure was lifted off the ground and spiraled into the distance. Before them were four figures: Peadora, Bismuth, Stevonnie, and Sugilite. They spoke in unison, telling her this charade had gone on long enough, aware that A.C.M.E. only wanted the V.I.L.E. prisoners as guinea pigs for grotesque medical and psychological experiments, reminiscent of Project KMOutré throughout the 20th century.

All of them laughed, maniacally. "We will not let this stand, A.C.M.E. *We know* what you are…and you are liars! We are putting you under arrest per the first order of the WPA. It's time to put you where you all belong…in a prison…in Antarctica. No longer will *your ilk* be a menace to society."

Aware their puny Earth weapons could do nothing, the A.C.M.E. members surrendered, marching into assembled helicopters, piloted by uncorrupted Gems. Speeding away into the distance, Peadora, Bismuth, Stevonnie, and Sugilite celebrated *a job well done*. While Bismuth and Sugilite warped back to Beach City using Lion. Peadora and Stevonnie went on their long-awaited date, traveling across the world.

Shadowsan's helicopter landed in Miura, at the farm tended by Utena, Anthy, Peri, and Lapis, at the exact coordinates Carmen had given him. Disturbed by the loud helicopter motor, Lapis and Peri came out of the house, irritated. As the motor's sound died down, Shadowsan bowed to them in a respectful manner.

Lapis and Peri stared at each other in confusion, as did Pumpkin, not sure why he had come there. He informed them that the people on the helicopter had been "Carmen's present" for their caring support, in recent days.

A hypnotized Coach Brunt, Dr. Saira Bellum, Dr. Maelstrom, Countess Cleo, the Cleaners, Tigress, El Topo, Le Chevre, and Mime Bomb stepped out, delighting Lapis and Peri.

With these workers, the hemp could be planted at the farm and turned into clothing. As Shadowsan departed, Lapis and Peri joined hands and *began to serenade* the hypnotized workers with an upbeat song.

“Here we are at the farm

Here we are at the farm and its right!

Nothing to worry about

No one to spite!

I can't believe we’ve achieved so much

Merrily forever after, here we are.”

End Notes

Yuri/Lily is the name for Nitori Shuuichi, just fyi there. The pages for Other Gems, Andy DeMayo, and Gem Harvest on the Steven Universe fandom were helpful, as was the V.I.L.E. Academy page on the Carmen Sandiego fandom. White Diamond's speech is inspired by William Wallace (played by Mel Gibson) in Braveheart (1995) and Lt. General Tadamichi Kiribayashi (played by Ken Watanabe) in Letters from Iwo Jima (2006), using quotes from various sources.

For the part about Carmen and Julia's injuries after hitting the skyscraper, I consulted Karl Kruszelnicki's "Dead before you hit the ground" (ABC Science), Shelby Hoebee's "10 People Who Survived Falling From Extreme Heights" (ListVerse), answers on the Quora site for the question "How tall is 4 stories high in meters?," Susan Donaldson James's "20-Year-Old Survives 15-Story Fall" (ABC News), Ian Sample's "How big a fall can a person survive?" (The Guardian), Jake Rossen's "How Far Can You Fall and Still Survive" (Mental Floss), answers on the Quora site for the question "Would most people be able to survive a fall from the third floor of an apartment building on hard concrete?," answers on Yahoo! Answers for the question "Can you really fall for a 5 story building and survive?," Patrick McCarthy's "Falling Injuries & Fatality Rates" (OffGrid), and Melinda Wenner Moyer's "How To Survive a 47-Story Fall" (Slate).

The specifications of Andy's biplane I based on those of the Bristol F.2. Fighter, which was the inspiration for his biplane which first appeared in Gem Harvest. The distances Andy had to travel was calculated using distancesfrom.com (Pusan, ROK to Ocean City, MD and Havana, Cuba to Ocean City, MD), with Ocean City used as a stand-in for Beach City. Other distances were calculated using Google Earth and conversions made using sites like rapidtables.com. According to sunrise-sunset.org, on June 9, 2019, the son set in Ocean City around 8:23 P.M., so I'm using that as a basis.

The song by Lapis and Peri is a straight-up parody of Steven's lines from the "Happily Ever After" song in the Steven Universe Movie.

Works inspired by this one

Rise of the Scarlet Wildcat by lefemmerouge

Please drop by the Archive and comment to let the creator know if you enjoyed their work!